

Middletown Public Schools

Middletown, Rhode Island

Thursday, January 20, 2011

Michael S. Pinto Conference Room

6:00 p.m. Workshop

7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

Members Present:

Theresa Spengler, Vice-Chair

Kellie DiPalma

Liana Fenton

William O'Connell

Member Absent:

Michael F. Crowley, Jr., Chair

Also Present:

Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Superintendent of Schools

Linda Savastano, Assistant Superintendent

Raquel Pellerin, Business Manager

Edward Collins, Facilities Director

The Budget Workshop began at 6:04 p.m. The 2011-2012 Budget Goals are as follows:

- To map the FY 2011-2012 budget to the Uniform Chart of Accounts to ensure alignment with the Basic Education Plan.**
- To use our community fiscal resources wisely and purposefully to maintain and enhance a high quality education.**
- To identify and acquire high quality resources to support district goals and ensure that budget plans link expenditures to anticipated outcomes.**
- To coordinate fiscal resources from local, state and federal funding streams, as well as human capital resources, to meet priority instructional goals and to promote equity and excellence.**
- To allocate resources that support student achievement and instructional goals, including money, time, personnel and materials, in a manner that supports district goals and maximizes student growth and achievement.**
- To ensure equity and adequacy of available resources.**

This year, Middletown will align budget allocations to the BEP and UCOA mapping. The seven segments to review are fund/sub-fund, location code, function code, program code, subject code, object code, and job classification. For budgeting, only function code and budget code will be used. The data will be available at all levels for

drill down. It was suggested to give a brief sentence to explain the abbreviations. In order to meet the mandates, we need to change the way we budget. We will use a “zero based” budget which starts from the premise that something is not in the budget just because it was previously included in the budget.

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MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) Kellie DiPalma. To adjourn from the budget subcommittee at 6:52 p.m. Unanimous vote.

The regular School Committee Meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by vice-Chair Theresa Spengler. Administrative staff members present were Vincent Giuliano, Steven Ruscito, Michelle Fonseca, and Stephen Ponte.

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma, 2) Liana Fenton. To move Proclamations and Awards up on the agenda. Unanimous vote.

PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS

•Student Awards – One award was presented for Newport Daily News

Student of the Week.

SPOTLIGHT ON TEACHING AND LEARNING

“Program of Studies”

At the February 17th School Committee Meeting, we will vote on the proposed additions/deletions to the Program of Studies.

•Computer Technology – Christopher Savastano, Director of Fine and Applied Arts, reported on the changes to the Computer Technology courses. The High School is requesting the addition of a “Video Game Design and Development” course using Game Maker. This course would be rigorous enough and address the technology standards. The Department would eliminate the “Operating Systems and Hardware” course.

•English Department – Laura Yentsch, Director of Humanities, said that English 9 remains the same. They would like to propose that in 2012, the Capstone be moved from the Junior year to the Senior year. There was a question about students who move into the district and how they would catch up. The Military Compact has accommodations for this in addition to our own Middletown Public Schools policy. There would be the possibility of completing a summer program. There was also concern about the already large

paperwork load for seniors. The Capstone presentation dates would need to be moved up to accommodate seniors who do not make it the first time. There is also talk about other departments picking up portions of the Capstone. It was suggested that a committee be formed to study this proposal.

The department would like to add a half year “Sports Literature” course. There would be a small budget impact – a one-time-only expense to purchase books, approximately \$2,300. The staffing impact would be based on student request.

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- Math Department – Kevin Zahm, Director of Math and Science, said that the department is requesting the addition of a “Foundations of Geometry” double-time class. The staffing impact would be the need for one extra section, resulting in a .2 math position and .2 special education position. The department is also requesting the addition of a “Discrete Math/Finance” course. There are no concerns about buying textbooks. The staffing requirement would be for one section.

- Music Department – Christopher Savastano, Director of Fine and Applied Arts, requested the addition of a “Piano II” course. With the addition of the new pianos, the size of the class went from 12 to 24. Many students requested to continue after completing “Piano I”.**

- Physical Education – Kevin Zahm, Director of Math and Science, said that the department is requesting the addition of a “Life Fitness” elective and the addition of a “First Aid and Sports Medicine” course.**

- Science department – Kevin Zahm, Director of Math and Science, said the title of Physics First was changed to “Introduction to Physical, Earth and Space Science”. Mrs. Fenton asked what is being done in grades 7 and 8 to assist when students reach grade nine. There was a question if the course should be called “introduction” if students have already had the introduction. The word “introduction” will be removed.**

There is no change in the Social Studies department. Social Studies curriculum writing will take place next year.

INFORMATION

Mrs. Kraeger listed items of information:

- Updated list of meetings for January and February**

- Regionalization Forum on February 7, 2011
- Oliphant Administration phones to be automated

CORRESPONDENCE

No “Correspondence” for January 20, 2011.

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CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma , 2) Liana Fenton. To approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimous vote.

- Approval of Minutes of December 16, 2010 School Committee Meeting
- Approval of Minutes of December 16, 2010 Executive Session
- Approval of Invoice Register, dated December 21, 2010, in the amount of \$649,557.51
- Approval of Invoice Register, dated December 22, 2010, in the amount of \$1,698.20
- Approval of Invoice Register, dated December 22, 2010, in the

amount of \$375.00

- Approval of Invoice Register, dated January 4, 2011, in the amount of \$36,302.28**

- Approval of Invoice Register, dated January 6, 2011, in the amount of \$10,666.64**

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION ON PERSONNEL

MIDDLETOWN HIGH SCHOOL ADVISOR

Robin E. Zurybida Custodian, Facilities Management Department

Thomas Alose Career Education, Middletown High School

ACTION ITEMS

BUDGET WORKSHOP DATES

MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) Kellie DiPalma. That the School Committee approve the 2011-2012 Budget Workshop Dates, with the addition of January 31, 2011 and March 10, 2011. Unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS

- STRATEGIC PLAN – There will be a Leadership Breakfast at Atlantic**

Beach Club on Friday, February 4, 2011. This will be hosted by the Atlantic Beach Club. Other meetings include:

February 10, 2011 Mini Retreat from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m., Oliphant Administration Conference Room

February 28, 2011 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Small work groups to continue writing plan. Review on line survey results.

March 15, 2011 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Small work groups to continue writing plan.

March 31, 2011 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Roll out process

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•LITTLE COMPTON – A group visited the High School this week. Student guides talked about academics and the spirit of the high school. Three School Committee Members and the Superintendent will be visiting next week. The decision as to Little Compton's school of choice will be made in April or May. There will be a budget presentation next week.

NEW BUSINESS

•**FIELDING NAIR INTERNATIONAL** – The Fielding Nair team will meet with the leadership team of the town on January 24th at Town Hall to discuss how Middletown's education plan fits with the town's plan and to map out the footprint for the drive in.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

•**Curriculum** – Mrs. Savastano reported on the K-12 ELA curriculum. Grade 7-10 teachers met to complete a draft budget document. The task force met this week to discuss required books at each level. The K-12 science curriculum is also being developed. Special Education census and PLP data are due to the Department of Education. Teacher core student snapshot information will be uploaded for math and ELA to help the Department of Education lay the foundation for the evaluation system. RIDE Survey Works will be taking place soon. "Opt Out" forms will be mailed home to parents. "Aimsweb", a progress monitoring program, will allow us to zoom in to a particular area that a student may need extra support.

•**Financial** – Ms. Pellerin reported that the UCOA information from last year will be published soon. There will be a UCOA meeting on

February 11th to view the data. As of December 31st, revenues are on target. A second prior year payment has been received. There is a new smoothie program at Middletown High School.

•Facilities – Mr. Collins reported that the majority of the facilities staff is painting the inside of Middletown High School. We have experienced two large snowstorms which exceeds last years total. Mello Construction plows the two larger buildings. Facilities staff plows the smaller schools and the Administration Building. Mello Construction also pre-treats, which helps. The two elementary schools and Gaudet School are on-line with a bus software program. Ocean State Transit has done a fantastic job. The facilities continue to have a great deal of use – 155 events at the buildings in December and 377 for the month of January. 143 work orders were completed last month.

•National Grid Energy Audit – The school department has alerted National Grid that they have overcharged us and a credit will be issued. The total cost per square foot for electricity is \$1.

•Other Reports – The Vacation Enrichment Program will run through the School Department instead of the Town Recreation Department.

MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) William O'Connell. That the School Committee receive the Superintendent's Reports. Unanimous vote.

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REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Kellie DiPalma attended a Safety Advisory Committee. John Underwood from Life of an Athlete was the guest speaker. Mr. Underwood is assisting Middletown with the implementation and tweaking policy.

ADJOURN FROM MEETING

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma, 2) William O'Connell. To adjourn from School Committee Meeting at 8:49 p.m. Unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Clerk